

## Message Text

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ACTION VO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 INSE-00 CA-01 HA-05  
CIAE-00 FBIE-00 NSAE-00 H-01 L-03 /041 W  
-----026383 190522Z /20

R 171430Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5613  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CGEN, SHUM, CVIS, SREF, RO, AU  
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN EMIGRATION

REF: STATE 61611

1. WE HAVE READ REFTEL WITH GREAT INTEREST, AND WELCOME DECISIONS TAKEN BY DEPARTMENT AND INS CONSERNING ROMANIAN EMIGRATION INSOFAR AS IT IMPINGES ON AUSTRIA. WE BELIEVE POLICY OUTLINED REFTEL, PARTICULARLY EXPANSION OF TCP PROGRAM IN ROME AND DENIAL OF DOCUMENTATION FOR INELIGIBLES, WILL SERVE TO ALLAY GROWING AUSTRIAN CONCERNS OVER DIRECTIONS OF U.S. REFUGEE POLICY AS WELL AS IMPLICATIONS FOR AUSTRIA OF ITS OWN POSITION ON REFUGEES.

2. AUSTRIA'S GENEROUS REFUGEE POLICY FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS HAS OPERATED ON BASIC PROMISE THAT EASTERN EUROPEAN REFUGEES ARE GRANTED TEMPORARY ASYLUM IN AUSTRIA PENDING ACCEPTANCE BY COUNTRY OF DESIRED RESETTLEMENT. VAST BULK OF REFUGEES HAVE CHOSEN ONWARD DESTINATION--MAINLY U.S.--AND HAVE GENERALLY MOVED ON

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IN MATTER OF MONTHS, THUS ALLOWING AUSTRIA TO FUNCTION AS TEMPORARY HAVEN FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PERSONS FLEEING COMMUNIST HOMELANDS. AUSTRIANS HAVE BECOME UNEASY, HOWEVER, OVER BUILD-UP OF REFUGEE BACKLOG HERE THAT THREATENS TO BECOME UNMANAGEABLE GIVEN LIMITED LOCAL FACILITIES AND ABSORPTIVE CAPABILITY. REFUGEE PROBLEM HAS ALSO LATELY BECOME ISSUE FOR

AUSTRIAN PRESS ATTENTION.

3. AUSTRIAN REFUGEE OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED TO US PRIVATELY THEIR CONCERN ABOUT 'PROBLEM' CASES, THAT IS, THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE STATUTORILY INELIGIBLE FOR ENTRY INTO U.S. AND WHO AUSTRIANS FEAR WILL BE STRANDED HERE. WE HAVE THOUGHT IT UNWISE FOR SOME TIME FOR U.S. GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT OF 212(A) INELIGIBLES INTO AUSTRIA WITHOUT FULL CONSIDERATION OF ALL POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT CONTINUATION OF SUCH ACTIVITY WOULD CAUSE AUSTRIA TO RECONSIDER ITS LIBERAL POLICY OF TEMPORARY ASYLUM FOR EASTERN EUROPEANS SEEKING REFUGEE STATUS. WE THEREFORE STRONGLY ENDORSE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL (PARA 5 REFTEL) TO DENY DOCUMENTATION TO INELIGIBLES UNLESS THEY HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BEFOREHAND FOR RESETTLEMENT BY THIRD COUNTRY. BASED ON PAST CASES, AND PROBLEMS AUSTRIA IS ALREADY EXPERIENCING WITH NON-EASTERN EUROPEANS ACCEPTED FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT IN AUSTRIA, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT AUSTRIA WOULD ACCEPT INELIGIBLE ROMANIANS FOR RESETTLEMENT.

4. WE NOTE THAT CASE DESCRIBED IN BUCHAREST 1686, JUST RECEIVED, APPEARS TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED PARAS 2 AND 3 REFTEL. BORG  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, POLICIES, POPULATION MOVEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978VIENNA02616  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780121-0561  
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**Message ID:** 15a67cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION VO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 61611  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3284523  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ROMANIAN EMIGRATION  
**TAGS:** CGEN, SHUM, CVIS, SREF, RO, AU, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014